From: dougfrancis@mris.com [mailto:dougfrancis@mris.com]

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To: ATR-Real Estate Workshop

Subject: Comment, Project No. V050015

"Competition and the Real Estate Workshop" -- Comment, Project No. V050015

I have been an active agent for close to 15 years and have always felt that there has been fierce competition among agents. The reduced commission concept has always been around, and I am amazed at how many agents now pay buyers to hire them through rebates. The NAR data clearly shows that commission rates have dropped across the board as real estate has continued to appreciate in value.

I find it almost embarrassing that the Department of Justice is pursuing this case instead of looking into the recent gasoline scandal that we just endured. If DOJ feels there is some pricing conspiracy to unmask, then the Trojan horse looks like an Exxon/Mobil tiger around the next corner!

Welcome to the United States we live in. -Doug Francis

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